United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
Michigan Field Office
Cooperating with Michigan Department of Agriculture

Michigan Crop Weather

MI-CW2109 May 26, 2009

Windy and Warm

Six days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending May 24, according to the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. Precipitation varied from 0.02 inches in the east central Lower Peninsula to 0.14 inches in the western Upper Peninsula. Average temperatures ranged from normal in the western and eastern Upper Peninsula to 5 degrees above normal in the west central and southwest Lower Peninsula. Light winds and warm temperatures allowed soils to dry down enough for farmers to diligently work to get crops planted; there were a few wet spots in some low lying areas. A reporter in the west central commented, "We finally had a good week for field work. No rain for a change and a lot of soil drying took place."

Field Crops

Farmers took advantage of dry weather to plant. **Wheat** progressed. The majority of the crop was in Feekes growing stage 8; some was in Feekes 6, 7 and 9. **Rye**, **oats** and **barley** progressed. Early planted fields were slightly damaged by the abundance of rain while late planted fields looked good. Rye was in Feekes growing stages of 9 or more. Oats were in Feekes growing stages 6 and 7 in early planted fields. **Corn** and **soybean** planting progressed rapidly with dry weather. Early planted fields of soybeans have emerged. **Alfalfa** was growing well. First cuttings are expected. Winter kill affected the tonnage in comparison to last year. Reports of weevil feeding continued. **Sugarbeets** were emerging. A reporter in the Thumb region stated, "**Dry bean** planting will begin this week."

Soil moisture for week ending 05/24/09

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
Topsoil	0	14	72	14
Subsoil	0	5	78	17

Crop condition for week ending 05/24/09

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
All Hay	0	3	18	55	24
Oats	0	2	26	61	11
Pasture	1	4	26	42	27
Winter Wheat	1	5	24	51	19

Fruit

Scattered frost on May 18 caused damage to some fruit. **Apple** bloom neared completion in the southwest; trees were in petal fall in the Grand Rapids area. Apple scab was a concern because of the extensive amount of rain and resistance to some fungicides. **Peaches** emerged from the shuck in the southwest and were in petal fall in the west central. Peach leaf curl symptoms appeared. European **plums** were in shuck. **Strawberry** bloom continued. **Raspberry** flower clusters emerged. **Sweet cherries** were in petal fall in the northwest. **Tart cherries** were in early petal fall in the northwest; they emerged from the shuck in the southwest, where the crop is variable. **Pears** were 4 to 8 mm in diameter in the southwest and in full bloom in the northwest. **Blueberries** ranged from late pink to full bloom. **Grape** shoots were 2 to 6 inches long in the southwest and at bud swell in the northwest.

Vegetables

Vegetable growers across the state reported they were still a week behind schedule due to cool, wet, and windy conditions earlier in the month; however, the pace of field work increased this week with higher temperatures. Much plastic has been laid in preparation for warm-season crops. **Asparagus** harvest continued at a slow pace this week. Common asparagus beetle eggs were observed in fields across the State, and some frost damage to asparagus was observed in Oceana County. The pace of **cabbage** transplanting increased dramatically with the warmer, drier field conditions. The earliest plantings of **sweet corn** were at 4 to 6 inches. Although sweet corn growth has been slow, no problems have been reported. Planting of summer and winter **squash** continued in the Grand Rapids area while **potatoes** were being planted this week in the southeast. Direct seeded **cucumbers** were at the first true leaf stage. Seeded cucumbers under tunnels were at the third true leaf while transplants were at the fifth and sixth leaf. Seeded fields of **onions** were in the first leaf; some onion fields looked good while others displayed areas of poor emergence due to excessive moisture. On muck soils, **celery** transplanting continued and **carrots** were emerging. Some celery growers were behind schedule due to wet soils. Carrot growers in western counties were evaluating replanting in fields damaged by rain. Transplanting of **peppers**, **eggplant**, **watermelon** and **cantaloupe** began this week. **Lettuce**, **radish**, **leek**, and **parsnip** establishment continued. Transplanting of **tomatoes** continued this week while tomatoes under tunnels were close to touching the top of the tunnel.

Crop progress for week ending 05/24/09

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
All hay, first cutting	4	NA	5	5
Asparagus, harvested	25	13	47	45
Barley, planted	95	80	82	91
Barley, emerged	64	46	38	69
Corn, planted	77	41	93	86
Corn, emerged	27	6	57	55
Dry beans, planted	4	NA	1	2
Oats, planted	92	86	97	98
Oats, emerged	75	60	84	89
Potatoes, planted	72	56	66	71
Potatoes, emerged	25	8	31	35
Soybeans, planted	43	15	76	61
Soybeans, emerged	8	1	17	22
Sugarbeets, planted	100	96	100	100
Winter wheat, headed	1	0	1	13

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Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 05/25/09 [1]

Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days [2]			Precipitation					
											Normal	
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure from normal	2009	2008	Normal	This week	Last two weeks	Last four weeks	Since April 1	Since April 1	For month
Ironwood	88	30		265	184		0.11	0.77	1.62	4.11		
Marquette	90	32		205	144		0.11	0.77	1.62	4.12		
Stephenson	88	34		294	260		0.07	0.77	1.86	4.16		
Western UP	90	25	0	248	184	249	0.14	0.84	1.70	4.17	4.82	3.37
Cornell	79	34		245	208		0.12	1.07	1.53	4.04		
Sault St Marie	80	37		190	170		0.25	1.95	2.18	3.26		
Eastern UP	84	34	0	197	169	167	0.13	1.30	1.90	4.30	4.73	3.01
Beulah	84	42		328	334		0.12	0.81	1.44	4.07		
Lake City	81	38		328	313		0.15	1.65	2.33	5.05		
Old Mission	84	35		279	283		0.02	0.46	0.60	2.16		
Pellston	86	27		275	290		0.08	0.77	1.27	2.27		
Northwest	86	27	3	290	291	297	0.08	0.91	1.32	3.18	4.72	2.61
Alpena	89	38		299	292		0.00	1.02	1.48	4.25		
Houghton Lake	82	37		323	321		0.17	1.45	2.21	5.75		
Rogers City	86	38		300	265		0.06	1.05	1.56	4.66		
Northeast	90	36	4	309	305	278	0.08	1.10	1.70	4.81	4.73	2.76
Fremont	80	47		356	370		0.00	1.00	2.85	5.94		
Hart	78	45		337	333		0.00	2.24	3.79	6.67		
Muskegon	78	51		368	332		0.19	0.68	2.25	5.61		
West Central	80	24	5	359	352	341	0.05	1.58	3.21	5.86	5.30	2.67
Alma	83	36		356	373		0.04	0.83	2.14	8.24		
Big Rapids	84	32		388	388		0.04	0.68	2.24	5.50		
Central	84	32	4	367	378	375	0.06	0.78	2.20	6.38	5.31	2.79
Bad Axe	85	34		331	351		0.00	0.58	1.77	6.41		
Pigeon	84	39		322	349		0.00	0.51	2.34	5.85		
Saginaw	84	45		361	389		0.04	0.58	1.88	6.94		
Standish	84	31		339	335		0.02	0.91	1.98	5.58		
East Central	85	30	2	324	363	357	0.02	0.68	1.95	6.46	4.69	2.63
Fennville	80	48		394	355		0.02	0.70	1.67	6.15		
Grand Rapids	84	49		431	422		0.01	0.80	2.16	6.71		
Holland	82	34		435	417		0.01	1.26	2.65	8.45		
South Bend, IN	83	44		472	438		0.01	1.21	1.95	5.15		
Watervliet	83	44		423	394		0.09	1.06	1.91	6.20		
Southwest	86	32	5	431	413	406	0.06	1.05	2.06	6.64	5.87	3.01
Belding	83	46		361	379		0.07	1.02	2.62	6.87		
Coldwater	84	48		447	378		0.08	2.86	3.23	7.27		
Lansing	82	47		391	413		0.06	1.47	2.69	8.51		
South Central	84	35	4	404	400	406	0.06	1.48	2.75	7.49	5.56	2.92
Detroit	83	50		464	447		0.03	1.70	2.99	6.96		
Flint	82	45		404	442		0.04	1.03	2.03	6.79		
Romeo	84	45		392	374		0.03	0.61	0.85	2.91		
Tipton	84	43		441	416		0.50	2.24	3.08	6.88		
Toledo, OH	86	44		478	443		0.00	1.17	2.47	6.46		
Southeast	87	30	3	424	419	385	0.09	1.49	2.53	6.32	5.60	2.85

[1] Issued by the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Michigan State University's Cooperative Extension Service, Agricultural Meteorologist, Department of Geography, and Crop Advisory Team ALERTS.

[2] Growing degree days (GDD) is the sum of daily mean temperatures minus 50 per day, 86 maximum and 50 minimum. The GDD is accumulative from April 1.

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